PROCEEDINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY OF REPRESENTATIVE RYOTS AND MERCHANTS FROM ALL TALUKS OF THE PROVINCE OF MYSORE, HELD AT MYSORE ON THE 1st OCTOBER 1884.

The fourth Annual Meeting of the Assembly of Representative ryots and merchants from various parts of the Province was held at Mysore on the 1st October 1884. The Dewan K. Sheshadri Iyer, Esq., presided. There were present :—the Assistant to the Resident, the Councillors to His Highness the Maharaja, the Chief Judge, the Consulting Engineer, and other chief officers of the Mysore State. The number of representatives present was 183, *vide* Appendix.

2. The Dewan read the following English address containing a review of the past year's administration :—

GENTLEMEN—By desire of His Highness the Maharaja, I place before you to-day the financial statements for the past year. Excluding the receipts from the State Railway, the ordinary revenue during 1883—84 was Rs. 1,06,35,179 as follows :—

	Rs.
Land Revenue	73,34,476
Excise	12,29,737
Forest	6,27,283
Stamps	4,65,089
Sayer	2,83,426
Mohatarfa	2,81,442
Law and Justice	60,959
Post Office	58,616
Registration	46,962
Amrut Mahal	34,199
Education	23,966
Salt	26,455
Public Works	9,366
Sale Proceeds of uncurrent copper coins	26,128
Miscellaneous	1,27,475
Total.....	1,06,35,579

Against this income, the ordinary expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,01,39,513 as follows :—

A.

	Rs.	
Subsidy	24,50,000	
Civil List	10,00,000	
Interest on Public Debt	4,91,237	
Political Pensions including Allowances in lieu of Jahgir...	1,48,925	
Military Force	7,38,009	
		48,28,171

B.

Land Revenue Charges.		
Administration and Public Departments	1,95,890	
Deputy Commissioners and Establishments	1,73,949	
Assistant Commissioners and do.	1,04,112	
Taluk Establishments	5,23,609	
Revenue Survey	2,50,414	
Inam Department	7,816	
Remuneration of Village Servants	2,14,210	
Other Items	34,476	
Excise	16,097	
Forest	2,48,257	
Stamps	14,311	
Sayer	15,274	
Stationery and Printing	58,693	
Amrut Mahal Department	1,33,860	
Topographical Survey	84,285	
		20,75,253

C.

	Rs.	
Law and Justice including Jails	4,12,279	
Police	4,52,185	
Education...	1,38,065	
Muzarayi	2,79,657	
Medical	1,29,659	
Superannuation Pensions and Gratuities	2,45,600	
Public Works	9,36,001	
Post Office	1,27,535	
Registration	25,579	
Minor Departments	17,173	
British Officers' Furlough Allowances, Retiring Gratuities, Compensation Allowances and Leave and Pensionary Contributions	1,15,622	
Miscellaneous, including Rs. 1,67,791, expenditure of the Administration of the Civil and Military Station ...	3,56,734	
		32,36,089
Grand Total		1,01,39,513

The surplus at the close of the year was Rs. 4,96,066 including the surplus revenue of the Assigned Tract, Rs. 1,64,534. This result may be accepted as satisfactory, being a very considerable improvement upon the figures for the previous year when the surplus was only Rs. 1,18,896. This is due almost exclusively to the increased land revenue realized during the year. The actual collections under this head were Rs. 73,34,476 against Rs. 70,21,777 in 1882—83, showing an increase of Rs. 3,12,699. About one-half of this increase was due to the larger collection of past years' arrears, and the other half to the increased land revenue demand which occurred chiefly in the taluks comprised within the present Districts of Mysore and Kadur, and which was attributable to extended cultivation following on successive favorable seasons.

Akbari, Forests, and stamps yielded very nearly the same amount in both years; while Sayer, an important item of revenue in former years, which stood before the Famine at 6 lakhs, and went down to $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in 1882—83, has decreased still further, and yielded in the past year only Rs. 2,83,426. This marked fall was due to the prevalence of *koleroga* disease among the areca trees of the Malnad.

The ordinary expenditure during the past year was Rs. 1,01,39,513 or about a lakh less than in the previous year. It includes items of an exceptional nature, amounting to about 2 lakhs, which are not likely to recur in future years, such as the price paid to the Madras Government for Amrut Mahal cattle, Rs. 1,00,000; obsolete and mutilated copper coins, Rs. 70,053, &c. The normal expenditure may therefore be assumed to be about $99\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs.

The most remarkable decrease of expenditure was under "Law and Justice including Jails." There was a decrease of Rs. 28,587 in the cost of the Civil and Sessions Courts owing to the appointment of 2 Native in lieu of European Judges, of Rs. 41,968 by the abolition of 5 Sub-Judges' Courts, and of Rs. 13,487 by the reduction of 4 Munsiffs' Courts, making a total decrease of Rs. 84,042. Under "Jails" the cost of rations was less by about Rs. 12,424, and the charges on account of Mysore convicts at Port Blair by Rs. 1,02,378. This accounts for the total decrease of about 2 lakhs under "Law and Justice including Jails."

The new Department of Amrut Mahal was nearly self-supporting if we exclude the lakh of rupees paid to the Madras Government as the price of the Amrut Mahal cattle.

The reductions of establishments in all Departments have nearly been completed,

and a High Court with 3 Judges has been formed as promised in my address to you last year. The increased cost on account of this Court has been met by the abolition of the District Court at Bangalore and of the Subordinate Judges' Courts at Mysore and Chikmagalur.

The revision of village establishments by the substitution of service inam lands for cash payments from the Treasury is still under discussion owing to some differences of opinion in regard to the advantages of the proposed measure. The subject is one of great importance, and the Government will be glad to have your opinion on it.

You will observe from the foregoing remarks that the normal income of the past year, after excluding items of an extraordinary nature, such as the $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakh of arrears of land revenue, $\frac{1}{4}$ lakh, sale proceeds of obsolete copper coins, &c., was about $104\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs, against a normal expenditure of $99\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. The expenditure is likely to remain at the same figure for some years to come, but the maintenance of the income at $104\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs is entirely dependent upon the permanence of the improvement in the land revenue which took place last year, and upon our getting not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs from the sale of sandalwood.

The foregoing figures include the revenue and expenditure of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore. The revenue amounted to Rs. 3,32,325, and the expenditure to Rs. 1,67,791, leaving a surplus of Rs. 1,64,534. Under orders from the Government of India, the Revenue Administration of the Civil and Military Station was transferred to the Resident on 1st April 1884. The Mysore Government has been allowed to retain the surplus revenue of the Tract in question for the years 1881—82 and 1882—83, and the disposal of the surplus of 1883—84 and of future years is now under the consideration of His Excellency the Viceroy.

In the State Railway, Mysore to Bangalore, 87 miles, the receipts amounted to Rs. 3,11,429 and the expenditure to Rs, 190,625, the net earnings being Rs. 1,20,804 or 2·72 per cent on a capital outlay of 44 lakhs.

The capital expenditure on the State Railway during the past year amounted to Rs. 7,55,464 as follows:—

	Rs.
On Bangalore-Mysore line	91,443
On Bangalore-Tumkur line	6,64,021
Total.....	7,55,464

During the current year, a further expenditure of about $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakh has been incurred in completing the Tumkur line which was recently opened for public traffic. The capital expenditure on this section amounts to Rs. 16,46,955. It promises to be fairly remunerative, for, since the 11th August 1884, when it was opened, it has yielded an average net profit of over Rs. 1,000 per week, being at the rate of 3·27 per cent per annum on the capital outlay. The Government are anxious to push on this railway as soon as possible to Haribar, so as to connect it with the Southern Mahratta Railway. They have already succeeded in carrying it a further distance of 11 miles to Gubbi, an important centre of trade, by using surplus stores and by a cash outlay of about $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakh in the current year. The total cost of the Tumkur-Gubbi section, including all charges, and the maintenance for one year, will be Rs. 2,94,924.

Thus on the Railway from Bangalore to Gubbi, 54 miles, the total outlay amounts to Rs. 19,41,879 at a rate of Rs. 36,000 a mile, and very nearly absorbs the proceeds of the Railway loan of 20 lakhs which, in my speech of last year I represented to you, had realized Rs. 19,56,064.

Thus if we take the whole system of railway open from Mysore to Gubbi, the State possesses 141 miles costing Rs. 63½ lakhs at a rate of about Rs. 45,000 per mile. This result may be considered satisfactory, inasmuch as the average cost of construction in Mysore is Rs. 25,000 less per mile than the average on 7 other metre gauge lines in India.

By strict economy in first construction, the State anticipates a larger return for its money, and I think that by the end of the year the State may fairly expect to raise its rate of profit on the whole of its Railway capital from 2⅛ to more than 3 per cent.

It is now in contemplation at once to carry on the railway from Gubbi to Tiptur, a further distance of 33 miles, and the Government expect to be able to provide for this purpose 8½ lakhs during the current year; a further sum of 6 lakhs will probably be required next year for the complete equipment of this section.

The section from Tiptur to Harihar, 125 miles, has already been surveyed, and for its construction a capital of about 60 lakhs is required. It will be impossible to provide this sum out of current revenue. We have already constructed 141 miles of railway, and we propose adding to it 33 miles in the current year. The total length constructed out of current revenue, and a small loan of 20 lakhs, will thus amount to 174 miles, representing a State property of the most useful kind of the value of over 80 lakhs of rupees.

But this most desirable result has not been obtained without the resources of the State being strained to the utmost. The completion of the project therefore is contingent upon the necessary capital being secured from outside. I need not assure you that Government have been unremitting in their endeavours to find the necessary capital. They are deeply impressed with the importance of the line as a safe-guard against famines, and the present uncertainty in the weather would point to the necessity of the work being pushed on without avoidable delay.

This leads naturally to a consideration of the unfavorable prospect of this year's seasons. The south-west monsoon has been a failure, more or less, throughout the greater part of the Districts of Tumkur, Chitaldroog, Bangalore, Kolar and Mysore. In the Mysore District, except in a few taluks, nearly the whole of the early crop has been lost; the later and more important dry crop throughout the whole of the affected area is in a precarious condition; cattle are beginning to suffer from want of fodder, and prices show a tendency to rise. An early north-east monsoon may enable the Province to return to its normal condition without appreciable suffering; but if, unfortunately, the seasons continue unfavorable, the Government will have to face ere long a condition of serious and wide-spread distress. At the present moment, therefore, the enquiry naturally suggests itself whether we are better prepared now to meet a famine than we were 8 years ago.

Among measures of protection, the first place undoubtedly belongs to works of irrigation. Owing to the physical peculiarities of Mysore, however, there is very little scope for extension of irrigation by means of new works. The area under irrigation is only about 15 per cent of the total cultivation, and excepting the small tract commanded by channels drawn from perennial rivers, the whole of the irrigation in the country is dependent upon its numerous rainfed tanks. There are about 38,000 such tanks, large and small, which so cover every part of the country that it is now extremely difficult to find a site suitable for a new tank. Little therefore remains to be done by the Government of the present day beyond restoring and maintaining the old works.

We cannot conceal from ourselves the fact that a large number of these tanks are in complete ruin. The failure of our system of tank management is due to the non-recognition of the important fact that the ryot is jointly interested with Government in the maintenance of this chief source of irrigation. At one time undue

importance was given to the responsibility of Government for the up-keep of the tanks, the ryot's liability being altogether ignored, and when Government found that its costly agency could not, with any prospect of an adequate return for its capital, undertake the management of the tanks in the Province, the ryot was called upon to take charge of the majority of the tanks. But the ryot had by this time lost all traditions of combination for works of public utility, nor were the Civil officers in a position to enforce the ryot's liabilities in an efficient manner. The various inams and privileges attaching to up-keep by ryots had been swept away, and cesses had been imposed on the understanding that the work would be done by Government. Thus by emphasizing at different times, the responsibility of one or the other of the two bodies interested in the tanks, and by neglecting the interests of the other, the tanks on the preservation of which so much depends, have been allowed to deteriorate.

Any reform in our tank system must start with a clear recognition of the fact that it is beyond the ability of Government to undertake the repair and maintenance of all the tanks in the Province with any ultimate benefit to its revenue, nor will it be equitable to throw the burden on the ryots after the village system or what little remained of it has been disorganized, and after the ryot has tacitly been relieved of his responsibilities by the imposition of special cesses for the repair of tanks.

Under these circumstances, it is now proposed to draw a clear line between tanks which Government should reserve for direct management through its Public Works Department, and tanks that should be left to be dealt with by ryots under the supervision of the Revenue Department. Though from long disuse, there may not be the same skill available in villagers for the construction and repair of tanks, it is hoped that under a system of Local Government in respect of tanks which I shall indicate below, and with sympathetic watching and seasonable advice from the Revenue and Public Works Departments, the ryots will before long be able to restore such of the tanks as may be assigned to their management. The proposal is to reserve tanks yielding more than Rs. 500 revenue under the direct control of the Public Works Department. The number of such tanks is only 790, and from the large revenue they yield, from the heaviness of the cost of their repair and from the risk involved in their breech, it is desirable that they should be managed by the skilled agency under Government. Tanks yielding less than Rs. 500 will be handed over to the management of the villagers concerned, subject however to the responsible control of the Revenue officer. But in enforcing the responsibilities of the villagers, no hard and fast rules will be laid down. It is the rigidity of general rules applied without regard to local and traditional peculiarities that have made all the well-meant efforts of Government to better the condition of the ryots almost nugatory. In many instances, concessions granted to the ryots have been so hampered by conditions, or the process for obtaining them has been so complicated, that practically little benefit has resulted from them. The system proposed will, it is hoped, be sufficiently elastic to admit of its easy application to the varying conditions of the Maidan and the Malnad, or of places where capital and intelligence are forthcoming, and places where ryots are too poor and ignorant to do any thing without State aid.

In the first place it is proposed to relieve the ryot of the one anna irrigation cess under tanks yielding less than 500 Rs. revenue, on condition of his doing the annual repairs to his tank. In the case of all works other than maintenance, whole or partial remissions of wet kandayam for one or more years will be granted in order to enable the ryots immediately to carry out the needful works. The remission thus granted will in each case be fixed with reference to the probable cost of the work. For instance, in the case of tanks requiring earth-work which might exceed what would be required under annual repairs, one or two years' wet kandayam may be remitted. If masonry and stone work has to be done, a remission of wet kandayam for 3 or 4 years may probably be required, and a similar concession for 5 or 7 years may suffice if a tank requires complete restoration. If, from want of capital, enterprise or combination in the village, it is not possible to have the tank work done by the ryots, the

Deputy Commissioner will have authority to undertake it, with the advice of the Department Public Works, wholly at the expense of Government, or to do the portion of work requiring skill or capital and to get the remainder (chiefly earth-work) done by the villagers on concessions similar to those specified above. Thus in the case of every tank yielding below Rs. 500 and requiring repair or restoration, it will rest with the ryots interested whether, with the liberal concessions above indicated, they will promptly do the work themselves or await the more tardy process of Government execution.

If the motives of self-interest which will thus be enlisted in our service, should fail to have the desired effect, the restoration of the most important tanks now in disuse will be thrown open to private capital and enterprise under what is already well known to you as the "Chauthayi" system. This system will be symplified and the remission of one-fourth of the assessment, instead of being limited as at present to 30 years, or until the introduction of the survey settlement, will be made a permanent concession. In the case of tanks requiring an exceptionally heavy outlay for their repair or restoration, concessions even more liberal will be granted.

There need be no apprehension that, under any of the proposals above made, there will be any needless sacrifice of Government interests. Under the present system, when a tank breaches, it is many years before it is repaired. As a partial relief half the wet assessment is remitted. The ryots pay half assessment for some years, and when the prospects of the tank being repaired get more and more remote, they resign their lands altogether, and Government loses the entire revenue on the "Atchkat" until the tank is restored. The partial and temporary remissions of revenue under the proposed scheme will generally be but a small fraction of the cost of repair and restoration by Government agency, and the continuous prosperity which will result from the prompt restoration of tanks will be an advantage upon which no money value can be paid.

I hope I have now sufficiently explained to you the proposed new scheme for the working of our tank system. How far the Public Works Department shall aid the Amildars in the performance of their "Maramat" duties and in what manner the Deputy Commissioners shall carry out the concessions above noted, are matters of detail which shall be elaborated with due care in consultation with the responsible officers of Government.

By the adoption of this scheme, His Highness' Government are sanguine that the tank system throughout the Province can be restored to a condition of thorough efficiency within the next 10 or 15 years. A forecast of all the important works to be undertaken by the Government within the next 10 years is already in course of preparation.

After all that may be done to improve our tanks, however, irrigation is but a broken reed to lean upon in times of famine. It has already been explained to you that the irrigable area is only 15 per cent of the area under cultivation. Of this small area the greater portion is dependent upon tanks for irrigation, and these tanks, which are themselves fed by the rains, fail us just when their support is needed most. We have thus to throw ourselves on our railways as our sure and only protection against some of the chief dangers of recurrent famines. The services which railways are capable of rendering during times of famine are well known to you. A railway is able to carry food to distressed tracts at a very small cost, varying from $\frac{1}{4}$th to 1/6th of a pie per maund per mile. In the famine of 1876—78, the tract which suffered most was over 50 and 100 miles away from the nearest railway, and it is right through the whole length of this tract that the proposed Bangalore-Hurihar Railway will run. When completed it will readily distribute food for 25 miles on either side or 50 miles in all. The tract served by it will thus be 50 miles wide by 212 miles long, or 10,600 square miles, which is fully $\frac{2}{3}$rds of the area where the most intense distress was felt in the years 1876 to 1878. But to place this extent of country beyond the risk of suffering, it

becomes a matter of vital necessity that the railway from Tiptur to Harihar, which I have already alluded to, should be completed at once. The dreadful teachings of the famine of 1876—78 are still fresh in our minds. Despite a liberal expenditure of 160 lakhs of rupees and the adoption of every measure which an enlightened humanity could suggest, fully a million of the population was swept away by that famine. Six years have scarcely elapsed since the close of that calamity, and the condition of the country is again causing grave anxiety. There is however no occasion as yet to apprehend a famine. The present position merely demands close watchfulness and preparedness for every contingency. But I take this opportunity of giving you the assurance that if, owing to the failure of the north-east monsoon, the laboring classes should be left without employment, Government will be able to meet the difficulty by the extension of its ordinary public works, but if the pressure should increase, it will become necessary to provide suitable relief works in convenient localities, and to organize a system of village relief which has been demonstrated to be the most humane and efficient method of helping those who may be unable to work without any disruption of the ordinary bonds of village society and without the demoralization inevitable in the establishment of relief kitchens.

I will now refer to a few of the more important matters connected with the ordinary administration, to which you drew attention last year. The representatives of some Districts complained of the hardship caused by the annual public sale of the pasturage on unoccupied Government lands, and pointed out that the system subjected the villagers to extortion and annoyance at the hands of the purchaser of this right. The two most important proposals made to remedy this evil are :—1*stly*, to substitute for the annual sale a small rate of, say, $\frac{1}{4}$ anna on every rupee of the Land revenue; and 2*ndly*, to levy a small tax of $\frac{1}{2}$ anna per head of cattle. These measures would not be wholly free from objection; the former, which would possess the advantage of simplicity, is likely to be regarded as imposing an additional burden on the land, while the latter, though quite legitimate in itself, will place too much power in the hands of the Village Shanbhog, and may not unfrequently lead to frauds. Pending further consideration therefore, the Government have, during the current year, adopted tentatively a scheme whereunder each village is given the option of securing the right to the pasturage within its limits for a price fixed upon the average realization during the past two years. I shall be glad to have your views on this subject in our subsequent meetings.

Another question discussed last year was the levy of an irrigation cess from Inam villages. I am glad to be able to inform you that Government now see their way to abolishing it.

The mode of dealing with excess in minor inams has also recently engaged the attention of Government. The present rule is to ascertain the authorized extent and to confirm it with the addition of 10 per cent, resuming and assessing the remainder, if any, under enjoyment. This rule is doubtless liberal, if the true extent of the original grant can be ascertained. But this is seldom the case, as the inamdar is generally unable to adduce any proof beyond long enjoyment, and as the boundaries specified in the grant are scarcely identifiable. With a view therefore to remove any just cause for dissatisfaction on the part of this numerous class of petty inamdars, the Government have directed that all inams, the survey valuation of which, as now enjoyed, does not exceed Rs. 5, should be confirmed in full, and that in the case of inams exceeding Rs. 5 in value, one-half of the excess should be confirmed as inam, the other half being charged with full assessment; provided that, in no case, more than three times the survey valuation is confirmed as inam. This rule will apply to all inams which are enjoyed in land. But in cases where the inam is not located, as is generally the case in the Malnad, where merely so much money is granted out of a particular warg, it will be impossible to apply the foregoing rule. It is believed that such cases will be liberally dealt with by confirming land equivalent to 11/10ths of the original money value of the inam,

with the additional concession that lands included in the inamdar's warg and converted into garden after the grant of the inam, shall be valued at rice and not garden rates.

The proposed Land Revenue and Local Funds Regulations which where discussed at our last year's meeting, have not yet been passed into law. The opinions of all Revenue and Judicial officers have been obtained in regard to them. Both Regulations with the opinions collected have been referred to Committees composed of able and experienced officers. I have not yet been favored with the recommendations of the Committee appointed to consider the Local Funds Regulation, but I understand that their recommendations do not involve any material alterations of the Draft already before the public. The Committee on the Land Revenue Code have submitted their recommendations. They do not suggest any material alterations except upon two points; one of them relates to the relations of inamdar and tenant (Chapter VII of the Draft). The Committee are of opinion that no "right of occupancy" as defined in Section 86 of the Draft, should be acquired by mere possession for 12 or any number of years, but they provide for the preservation of the right of all "Kadm" tenants, whether they pay rent in kind or money.

Another alteration of importance which the Committee recommend is the omission of Clauses (*b*) and (*c*) of Section 124 of the Draft. Section 123 and 124 follow Sections 106 and 107 of the Bombay Code. The former provides that, at the end of the term fixed for the present settlement, a revised assessment shall be fixed, *not* with reference to improvements made from private capital and resources, but with reference to general considerations of the value of the land, whether as to soil or situation, prices of produce or facilities of communication. The next section provides that nothing in the proceding section shall prevent a revised assessment being fixed—

(*a*) with reference to any improvement effected at the cost of Government;

(*b*) or with reference to the value of any natural advantage, when the improvement effected from private capital and resources consists only in having created the means of utilizing such advantage; or

(*c*) with reference to any improvement which is the result only of the ordinary operations of husbandry.

Clause (*a*) is in every way reasonable. But clause (*b*) has been so construed as to authorize the taxing of private wells, which in practice are the only kind of tenant's improvements in this country.

Water below the surface is a "natural advantage," and the digging of well by the ryot is only "creating the means for utilizing such advantage." Upon this ground the strict justice of the law which permits the taxing of private wells is perhaps defensible, but there can be no doubt whatever of the inexpediency of taxing these useful works which owe their origin so much to the labor and capital of the ryot. I believe that in omitting this provision from our Code, we are only slightly anticipating the course of legislation in British India. Clause (*c*), which refers to the taxing of improvements which are the result of the ordinary operations of husbandry, may also be omitted, as there have been such great differences of opinion as to its meaning. These alterations will give to the ryots's tenure under our settlement, an element of certainty and permanency to a much larger extent than now enjoyed. It will perhaps be a further gain in this direction to provide in Section 123 that a revised assessment should only be made with reference to the general value of the land as to situation, price of produce, and facilities of communication, and thereby to obviate the necessity for a re-classification of soils at the revised settlement. The ryot will thus be freed once for all from the inconveniences attending a re-survey and re-classification of his fields. On these and other questions connected with the Code, the Government will be glad to have your views. The papers placed at your disposal explain all the proposed alterations in full. The Government are anxious that this most important measure should come into effect from 1st April next and hope to be able to secure that end.

The details of the revision of the Medical and Educational Establishments recently carried out, are well known to you. By the substitution of Native for European subordinate medical staff, that Department will be made more suitable for the requirements of the Native State. The Educational scheme, which provides for definite and gradual promotions to all grades of Educational officers, will, it is believed, secure for that Department, an efficient staff of teachers working under a healthy stimulus and enjoying prospects of advancement which compare not unfavorably with those offered by other branches of the public service.

Mysore, as you may remember, was represented at the Calcutta Exhibition in 1883—84. Owing to short notice and the difficulty in collecting suitable exhibits, the arts and industries of Mysore could neither be fully nor fairly represented.

The report of the Local Committee is not yet to hand, but as soon as it is received, copies will be distributed for information throughout the different districts. The net cost to the State has been about 6,000 Rs., a very small sum considering the interests involved.

The exhibits from Mysore, few as they were, attracted considerable attention, and I am happy to say that the Province obtained

2 gold medals.

9 first class certificates and silver medals:

11 second do and bronze medals.

8 third class certificates.

The works most highly appreciated, were wood inlaid with ivory and sandalwood carvings.

Raw products, spices, silk fabrics, medicines, honey, coffee, &c., attracted attention, while the paintings by Mr. T. Rangasami Pillo, and the plans by the students of the Engineering School, were highly praised. The model railway carriages exhibited by Messrs. Appavu Chetti and Sons were excellent, and I am glad to say that Foreign Railways have already given orders to that Firm for the construction of some passenger vehicles. There was also a demand for Mysore metal-ware, goods in horn, and fancy work.

Exhibitions are shortly to be held both in London and Bombay, and to secure a proper represetation of Mysore at those places, steps will now be taken to collect some of the best specimens in art and manufacture, and at the same time a collection of all kinds will be made in Bangalore with a view to making our industries better known and appreciated locally.

Gentlemen, it now only remains for me to assure you of the great interest which His Highness the Maharaja takes in the success of these annual meetings. It is his hope and wish that this assembly will become, year after year, more and more useful to the country. By careful watching of the working of the Administration in all branches and by bringing to notice any defects or shortcomings in them and by practical suggestions for improving the condition of all classes of His Highness' subjects, you have it in your power to contribute in some measure to the good governmeet of the country. The lively interest you evince in the discussion of public questions, and yours intelligent appreciation of the intentions and policy of Government, are a source of strength to His Highness' advisers.

In conclusion, let me thank you, gentlemen, most heartily for the trouble you have taken to attend this meeting.

KARNATAKA STATE ARCHIVSE LIBRARY
BANGALORE